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## SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF PILOT TESTS AMONG VIETNAM VETERANS

MILITARY RECORDS WERE EXAMINED BY THE U. S. ARMY AND JOINT SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT GROUP IN ORDER TO ESTIMATE THE AMOUNT OF DAILY TROOP DISPERSION AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF ENCOUNTERS WITH AGENT ORANGE APPLICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 1, 1966 THROUGH MARCH 31, 1969, IN CORPS TACTICAL ZONE III, VIETNAM. PROCEDURES AND RESULTS OF THESE TESTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

### TROOP DISPERSION

SIX COMPANIES, ONE FROM EACH OF SIX OF THE BATTALIONS USED IN THE OTHER PILOT TESTS, AND SIX DAYS IN 1967 AND 1968 WERE SELECTED AT RANDOM. ON EACH OF THE 36 COMPANY-DAY COMBINATIONS (SIX COMPANIES TIMES SIX DAYS), THE RECORDED LOCATION FOR EACH ELEMENT OF THE COMPANY WAS PLOTTED ON THE APPROPRIATE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF VIETNAM. THE DISTANCE BETWEEN VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE SAME COMPANY ON THE SAME DAY WERE MEASURED FROM THE MAPS. THE MAXIMUM DISTANCE BETWEEN ANY TWO ELEMENTS OF THE SAME COMPANY ON THE SAME DAY WERE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING DISTRIBUTION:

NUMBER OF OCCURRANCES	DISTANCE IN KILOMETERS
17	0 (COMPANY ALL IN ONE LOCATION)
1	<2
5	2-4
4	5-9
5	10-19
4	20-29
36	6 (AVERAGE)

### NUMBER OF ENCOUNTERS

SEVEN BATTALIONS WERE SELECTED FOR THIS TEST, EACH CONSISTING OF FIVE COMPANIES, MAKING 35 COMPANIES IN ALL. THE DAILY LOCATIONS FOR EACH OF THESE COMPANIES WERE DETERMINED FROM EXISTING MILITARY RECORDS AND MATCHED AGAINST ALL KNOWN AGENT ORANGE APPLICATIONS DURING THE DESIGNATED 30 MONTH PERIOD OF THE TEST. MATCHING WAS DONE FOR ENCOUNTERS WITHIN THREE DIFFERENT TIME-DISTANCE COMBINATIONS, INCLUDING:

- 1) WITHIN 500 METERS ON THE DAY OF APPLICATION ("WET" ENCOUNTERS)
- 2) WITHIN 2 KILOMETERS AND WITHIN 3 DAYS OF APPLICATION
- 3) WITHIN 2 KILOMETERS AND WITHIN 6 DAYS OF APPLICATION.

A SUMMARY OF THE NUMBERS OF ENCOUNTERS AMONG THE 35 COMPANIES AND WITHIN EACH OF THESE TIME-DISTANCE COMBINATIONS IS SHOWN IN TABLE I. DATA ARE INCLUDED FOR RANCH HAND (HERBS) AND PERIMETER (SERVICES HERBS) AS WELL AS COMBINED (EITHER TAPE) AND FOR THE CUMULATIVE COMBINED, E.G., 5 COMPANIES HAD 14 OR MORE ENCOUNTERS WITHIN 2 KILOMETERS AND WITHIN 6 DAYS OF AN AGENT ORANGE APPLICATION. ALTHOUGH 5 OUT OF 35 IS 14%, THIS MAY BE AN OVERESTIMATE OF WHAT MIGHT BE FOUND AMONG ALL COMPANIES IN III CORPS SINCE THE 7 BATTALIONS WERE CHOSEN FROM AMONG THOSE THOUGHT TO BE THE MOST LIKELY EXPOSED TO RANCH HAND APPLICATIONS.

AMONG APPROXIMATELY 5000 VETERANS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THESE SEVEN BATTALIONS, THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WITH VARIOUS NUMBERS OF ENCOUNTERS WERE DETERMINED AS SHOWN IN TABLE II. SINCE THERE ARE SOME VETERANS WHO WERE ASSIGNED TO ONE OF THESE BATTALIONS WHO HAVE NOT YET BEEN IDENTIFIED, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT SOME OF THE PROPORTIONS OF MEN WITH MORE THAN A FEW ENCOUNTERS WILL BE GREATER THAN INDICATED IN THE TABLE, ALTHOUGH HOW MUCH IS UNKNOWN.

A MORE DETAILED LIST OF PROCEDURES AND RESULTS OF THE NUMBER OF ENCOUNTERS PILOT TESTS FOLLOW TABLE II IN THIS APPENDIX.

# RESULTS OF PILOT TESTS FOR NUMBER OF ENCOUNTERS WITH AGENT ORANGE APPLICATIONS

TABLE I NUMBERS OF COMPANIES WITH VARIOUS NUMBERS OF ENCOUNTERS

# OF ENCOUNTERS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13	14	15+
<u>500 M / 1 DAY</u>															
HERBS	33	1	1												
SERVICES HERBS	33	2													
EITHER TAPE	31	3	1												
CUMULATIVE	35	4	1												
CUMULATIVE %	100%	11%	3%												
<u>2 KMS / 3 DAYS</u>															
HERBS	24	6	3	1		1									
SERVICES HERBS	17	2	7	7		1						1			
EITHER TAPE	14	5	4	3	3	4			1			1			
CUMULATIVE	35	21	16	12	9	6	2	2	2	1	1	1			
CUMULATIVE %	100%	60%	46%	34%	26%	17%	6%	6%	6%	3%	3%	3%			
<u>2 KMS / 6 DAYS</u>															
HERBS	21	5	1	4					1	1			2		
SERVICES HERBS	17	2	2	2	4	2	3	1			1				1
EITHER TAPE	14	3	3	1	4		1	1	2				1	1	4
CUMULATIVE	35	21	18	15	14	10	10	9	8	6	6	6	6	5	4
CUMULATIVE %	100%	60%	51%	43%	40%	29%	29%	26%	23%	17%	17%	17%	17%	14%	11%

TABLE II NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH VARIOUS NUMBERS OF ENCOUNTERS

# OF ENCOUNTERS	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15+
<u>500 M / 1 DAY</u>															
EITHER TAPE	<4834	104+	62												
CUMULATIVE	~5000	166+	62												
CUMULATIVE %	100%	3%+	1%												
<u>2 KMS / 3 DAYS</u>															
EITHER TAPE	~4360	268	157	69	47	31	27	1	3		35	2			
CUMULATIVE	~5000	640	372	215	146	99	68	41	40	37	37	2			
CUMULATIVE %	100%	13%	7%	4%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%			
<u>2 KMS / 6 DAYS</u>															
EITHER TAPE	~4277	252	33	38	154	57	11	72	30	6		28	1	4	37
CUMULATIVE	~5000	723	471	438	400	246	189	178	106	76	70	70	42	41	37
CUMULATIVE %	100%	14%	9%	9%	8%	5%	4%	4%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%